



PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. 0329-0055

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: )  
Frank Hofmann )  
Serial No.: 10/779,470 )  
Filed: February 13, 2004 )  
Examiner: Eric K. Nicholson )  
Art Unit: 3679 )  
For: MAGNETICALLY CONTROLLED ROD )  
ASSEMBLY )

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P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97, as revised on February 4, 1992, 1135 OG 23-24, Applicants hereby call the Examiner's attention to documents listed on the attached form, which documents may be material to the examination of this application.

No inference should be drawn that any apparatus disclosed is equivalent to the subject invention. Also, the citation of the above-discussed documents is not to be construed as an assertion that more pertinent art could not possibly be in existence. Citation of any document herein is not to be


the document is necessarily within the inventive field of endeavor, that any disclosure is necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant to the instant patent application, and/or that any disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art with respect to the instant invention.

Please note that Citation No. 17 is the International Search Report for the parent International application from which priority is claimed.

Applicants also respectfully reserve the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosure of any document or other art, including the disclosure of those documents discussed herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the present patent application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of a first Office Action. Accordingly, enclosed is the fee of \$180.00. If it is determined that any additional fee is required for this Information Disclosure Statement, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50/1039.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Andrew G. Kolomayets  
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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

*(Use as many sheets as necessary)*

Sheet	1	of	3
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**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/779,470
Filing Date	02/13/2004
First Named Inventor	Frank Hofmann
Art Unit	3679
Examiner Name	Eric K. Nicholson
Attorney Docket Number	0329-0055

## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			
	5	DE 105 222	08/29/1899	Wilhelm Debus in Oberhause		✓
	6	GB 1 042 780 A	09/14/1966	Deputy Minister of the Ministe		
	7	DE 24 34 298 A	01/29/1976	Hermann von Rautenkranz In		✓
	8	DE 17 28 621 A	09/23/1976	Heimann Georg Dr.		
	9	DE 38 32 835 A1	03/29/1990	Windhorst Beteiligungsgessel		✓
	10	DE 39 32 892 A1	04/11/1991	Marker Deutschland GmbH		✓

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

*(Use as many sheets as necessary)*

Sheet	2	of	3
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		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	11	EP 0 679 829 B1	03/31/1999	Sakura Rubber Co., Ltd.		
	12	DE 198 14 232 C1	10/28/1999	Tracto-Technik Paul Schmidt		✓
	13	DE 199 10 450 A1	09/14/2000	ZF Luftfahrttechnik GmbH		✓
	14	DE 199 23 555 C1	11/02/2000	Tracto-Technik Paul Schmidt		✓
	15	JP 2001082018	03/27/2001	Miyata Ind. Co. Ltd.		✓
	16	WO 01/33583 A1	05/10/2001	Sem Drive AB		

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